

## PIONEER LIFE IN AMERICA

**PIONEER LIFE IN AMERICA.** The story of the pioneers is a thrilling tale of men and women who pushed America's frontier from the Appalachian Mountains to the Pacific Ocean. There were many famous frontiersmen, among them Daniel Boone, Kit Carson, and Davy Crockett. But the real heroes of the frontier were thousands of pioneers who never became famous. Their courage and hard work tamed a wilderness, and made way for the rise of a great nation.

This article tells about the people who followed the westward trails that had been blazed by explorers or fur traders. It describes life in an early pioneer settlement just west of the Appalachians. It also tells about the lonely, dangerous journey by wagon train across the Great Plains and the Rocky Mountains.

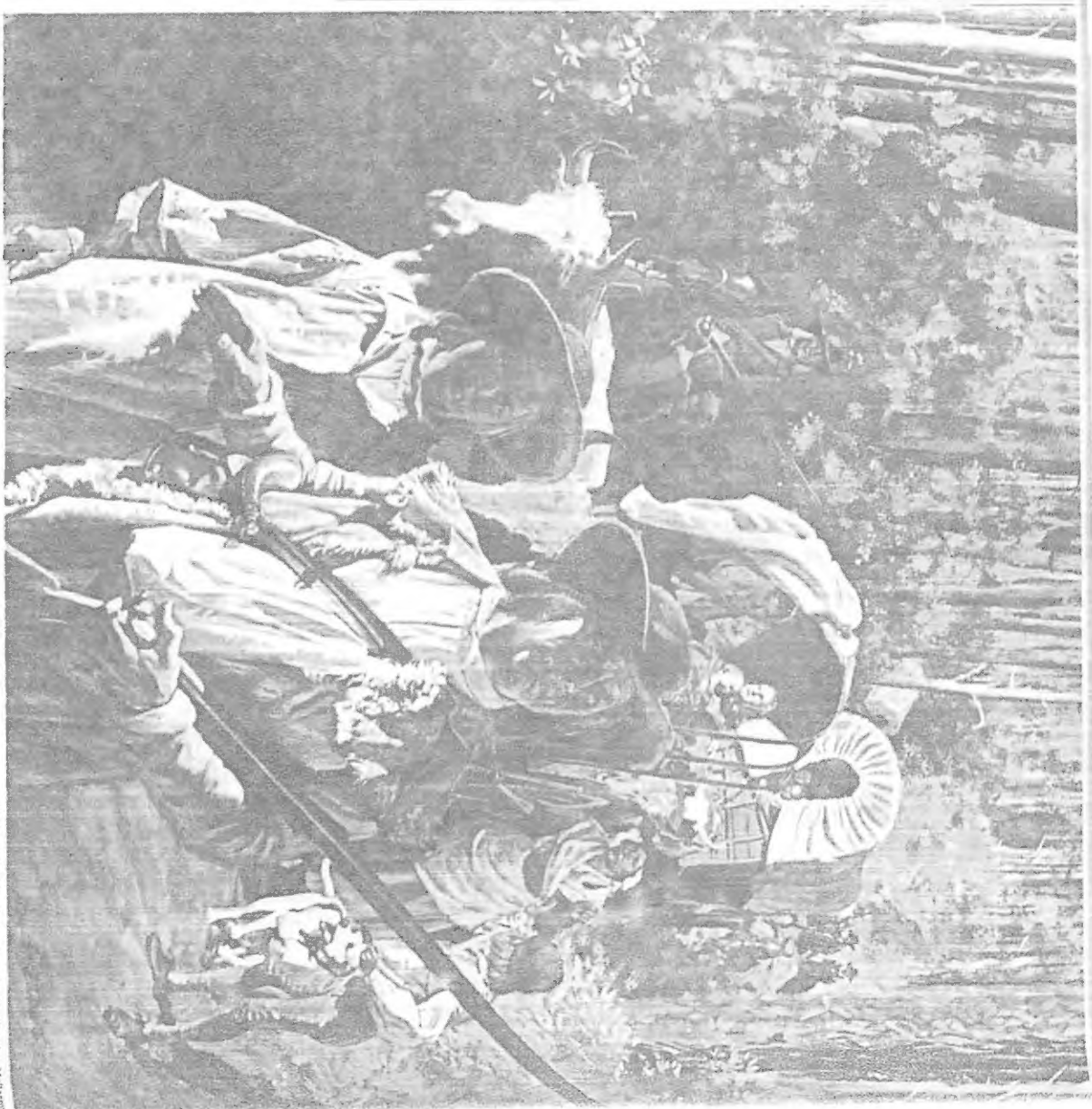
From about 1760 to 1850, the settlers moved westward in two big migrations. The first migration pushed the frontier as far west as the Mississippi Valley. During the second migration, settlers from the East and Midwest reached California and Oregon.

For the story of the first European colonists in America, see the World Book article **COLONIAL LIFE IN AMERICA**. For the history of the settlements that developed in the West after 1850, see **WESTERN FRONTIER LIFE**. See also **WESTWARD MOVEMENT**.

*The contributor of this article, Ruby Price Henderson, is the author of Pioneer Living. The article was critically reviewed by Robert C. Mearns, Professor of History at the University of Colorado.*



A. — Bronze statue of the Pioneer Woman, in Kansas City, Missouri.



**Facing Danger at Each Turn of the Trail.** America's pioneers struggled westward and tamed a wilderness. The story of their courage and achievements still thrills Americans today.

WORLD BOOK illustration by H. Charles McFarlane